ORIGIN/ACTION FE		
RM/R 1	REP	AF
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR 5
E	P	IO
L	FBO	AID 12
C/PH		
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR 4
ARMY 5	CIA 16	NAVY 5
OSD 17	USIA 4	NSA 3

4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

1-16 63
793.52/1-1663
XR 993.61
FOR RM USE ONLY
XR 793.5

A-509 NO. | CONFIDENTIAL | AIR POUCH HANDLING INDICATOR

1963 JAN 21 PM 2 32

TO : Department of State

INFO: HONG KONG

RM/AN ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Action assigned to EA/RC

Action Taken noted

1/22/63

FROM : AmEmbassy TAIPEI

DATE: January 16, 1963

SUBJECT: Local Stories on GRC Guerrrilla Activity

Action Office Symbol EA:RCC

REF :

Name of Officer a yodw

Direction to OC/R file

Taipei papers continue to carry "details" on the guerrilla groups reportedly wiped out by the Communists in Kwangtung in the latter part of last year. The China News January 15 carries a front-page story which claims that a GRC General who led the guerrilla assault has returned safely to Taiwan. This story reflects GRC efforts to picture the loss of the 172 guerrillas as a heroic defeat and the Communist victory as a Pyrrhic one.

After a fierce fight with the Communists, a group of survivors are said to have committed suicide with hand grenades. The story on the return of the General is no doubt meant to dispel the impression that all such assignments are necessarily suicidal. The detailed description of the adventures and death of a lone agent indicates to any critical reader that the whole story is manufactured. The story is quoted below:

"The landing of the "Sea Dragoon" group on the China Coast in the latter part of 1962 was on the whole smooth. However, after the main units had entered the seaboard areas, a rear guard unit of some 20 men led by the deputy commander of the group was discovered and intercepted by the enemy troops. They were subsequently surrounded by over 300 Communist troops and militia. After killing more

CONFIDENTIAL

FORM 4-62 DS-323

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY
Office of East Asian Affairs
JAN 24 1963
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Drafted by: JJTaylor:es

Comments and Classification Approved by: JFLeonard

Clearances:

than 150 Communist troops in a three-day pitched battle, the whole group committed suicide with hand grenades, the intelligence source reported.

"The highly-trained guerrilla personnel showed great courage and versatility in fighting with the enemy forces. One unit commander, when surrounded by the enemy troops, put on the uniform of a dead Communist militia man, and hid in a cave for 24 hours. When finally discovered by the platoon captain of the Communist militia, he overpowered him and used him as a guide to descend from the slope to the ground. But the escape route was sealed off by the enemy troops. Before he was mowed down by the enemy gun fire, he disposed of the fleeing Red militia captain with a knife thrown at a distance--one of the combat techniques required of a guerrilla fighter."

General S. K. HU, one of President Chiang's interpreters, told an American official that the above story had greatly angered the President and that the persons who released it to the press had been severely reprimanded. General Hu did not indicate what aspect of the story had upset President Chiang.

For the Ambassador:

James F. Leonard
Counselor of Embassy for
Political Affairs